

IMPORTANT AREA OF LAND ON THE SOMME REGAINED BY FRENCH

WHILE GERMANS DELAY RESUMPTION OF
DRIVE FRENCH TAKE INITIATIVE—IN
NIGHT ATTACK ON MILE FRONT
HILL IS WRESTED FROM FOE.

While a new German stroke on either the northern or southern battle front is still delayed, the French have taken the initiative in the latter field and delivered a telling blow south-east of Amiens.

Attacking on a front of more than a mile between Hailles and Castel, Gen. Petain's troops yesterday evening drove the Germans from hill 82, an eminence of some 250 feet over-

The ground, thus gained probably is more valuable than any other of equal area which lies along the entire Somme line. It was at Hallies that

the Germans effected their greatest westward penetration in their Amiens drive and at Hill 28 they were within less than three miles of the important Paris-Amiens railroad.

Adding this new terrain to the other high ground taken by the French farther south along the Avra not long ago, an excellent line of defense appears to have been taken up by the Entente forces in this region. The positions of the French at Hanguard and those of the British on the

In the Villers Bretonneux region as well, there has been a further improvement of the Entente position, the

The Germans still are holding off on the Flanders battle front, and the German newspapers are telling the public that the high command may decide not to take Ypres after all, as its possession is not important.

The German artillery seems to have turned its attention chiefly to the

turned its attention chiefly to the southern side of the Flanders salient and last night was bombarding the region along the 15 mile line between Givenchy and Nieppe Wood. In several thrusts at this front previously the enemy has been unable to make any substantial headway with the

British lines supported as they are by the barrier of La Bassée canal and backed up by the commanding positions behind Bethune.

Flanders and Picardy, and the Arras salient between, continue quiet, and the Germans have given no sign of where the next blow will be struck or when it will come. The present lull

The German offensive is not yet ended in the view of military authorities, and the enemy is expected to make further attempts to reach the channel. The supreme inter-Allied command has completed a two-day

war council has completed a two day session with a meeting at Abbeville, northwest of Amiens. All military questions were discussed and decided on and the results obtained are reported to have been most satisfactory. Premier Clemenceau, who presided, said that Gen. Foch, who as a result of the conference, it is reported, is commander in chief of the Allied

In Flanders there has been no activity except by the artillery, while on the British portion of the Picardy battle front a German raid near Hebutern, north of Albert, has been repulsed. South of the Somme the enemy artillery is bombarding violently the Villers Bretonneux region.

French troops have driven back the Germans in local attack in Hangard wood and southwest of Mailly-Rainval, south of Hangard, they have recaptured Baune wood. Berlin reports the situation as unchanged and records only artillery combats on the various fronts.

Elsewhere on the western front, in Ireland, the Germans there

northern Italy and in Macedonia there has been little activity. In Italy the rains have ceased and the weather has improved, but the fighting operations still are confined to patrol engagements. In Palestine the British have re-occupied Es Salt, east of the Jordan and northeast of Jericho. More than 300 prisoners were taken and the advance continues.

Germany and Austria apparently are meeting with difficulties in oppressing the people of the occupied Russian territories. The Ukraine government has been overthrown by the government and it is reported that a new government, presumably favorable to the Central empires, has taken the reins of power. Berlin re-

The strike in the important Dombrowska coal mining district of western Russia is reported to have got beyond control of the Austrian authorities, who have adopted stringent

restrictive measures. In the Ukraine the invaders are opposed by armed peasants and it is reported that the peasants have ruined the crops rather than let the Germans get possession.

TO RULE FINLAND

London, May 3.—Finnish newspapers are calling for the establishment of a monarchy in Finland, according to an Exchange Telegraph Co. dispatch from Copenhagen. The Svenska Tidningen, the organ of the peasant party, openly advocates that a Ger-

man prince be appointed king.